

Project Factsheet for: Goose Pond Mutual Drainage and Levee District

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Project Location Information

Location: Southeast Bureau County and northwest Putnam County, Illinois; near Hennepin.
River Basin(s): Illinois
State(s): IL
Congressional District(s): IL-11

Status

A public notice for the project was issued on May 23, 2007 and expired on June 21, 2007. We received a number of letters objecting to the project as well as a number of public hearing requests. The comment letters were forwarded to TWI for response. We have since received additional response to the public notice from several agencies including endangered species issues raised by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These letters have been forwarded to TWI for response.

Section 401 Water Quality Certification has not been issued by the Illinois EPA.

Description

The purpose of the project is to perform scientific and economic research over a 10-year period to assess the efficacy of nutrient farming, a water quality trading strategy that uses managed wetlands to offset nutrient loads from point source dischargers. The goal of the project is to demonstrate that through water quality trading nutrient farmers can sell nutrient removal credits to municipalities or industries that release excess nutrients and cannot cost-effectively remove these nutrients through mechanical or chemical means themselves. The Wetlands Initiative (TWI) is serving as the agent for this project to oversee and manage the design, construction, and operation of the project and to coordinate the necessary scientific research. TWI projects that the 4-cell system annually will remove 230 tons of nitrogen and 27.3 tons of total phosphorus when operating at half maximum capacity.

The project includes the construction of approximately 8.08 miles of external berm and 2.17 miles of internal berms, excavation for the construction of these berms, the construction of spillways, the construction of pump stations, the construction of flow control structures, and the construction of wetland mitigation. Water from the Illinois River is diverted into the cells, allowed to flow through slowly, and pass out the lower end back to the river. It is the intent that nitrogen and phosphorous levels are reduced. These reductions then are to be sold as 'credits' to metro Chicago wastewater treatment plants, reducing their costs for discharges to the river.

Summarized Financial Data

Federal Cost	\$
Non-Federal Cost	\$
Total Cost	\$
Federal Allocations through FY 2004	\$
Scheduled Federal Allocation for FY 2005	\$
Balance to Complete	\$

Authority

SI - Special Interest -- Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act

Project Manager Information

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